

MARVEL
2
LGY#030

HILL
CASAGRANDE
POGGI
BELLAIRE

"AN AMAZING BLEND OF INCREDIBLE ACTION AND INTRIGUING MYSTERY." — MULTIVERSITYCOMICS.COM

BLADE

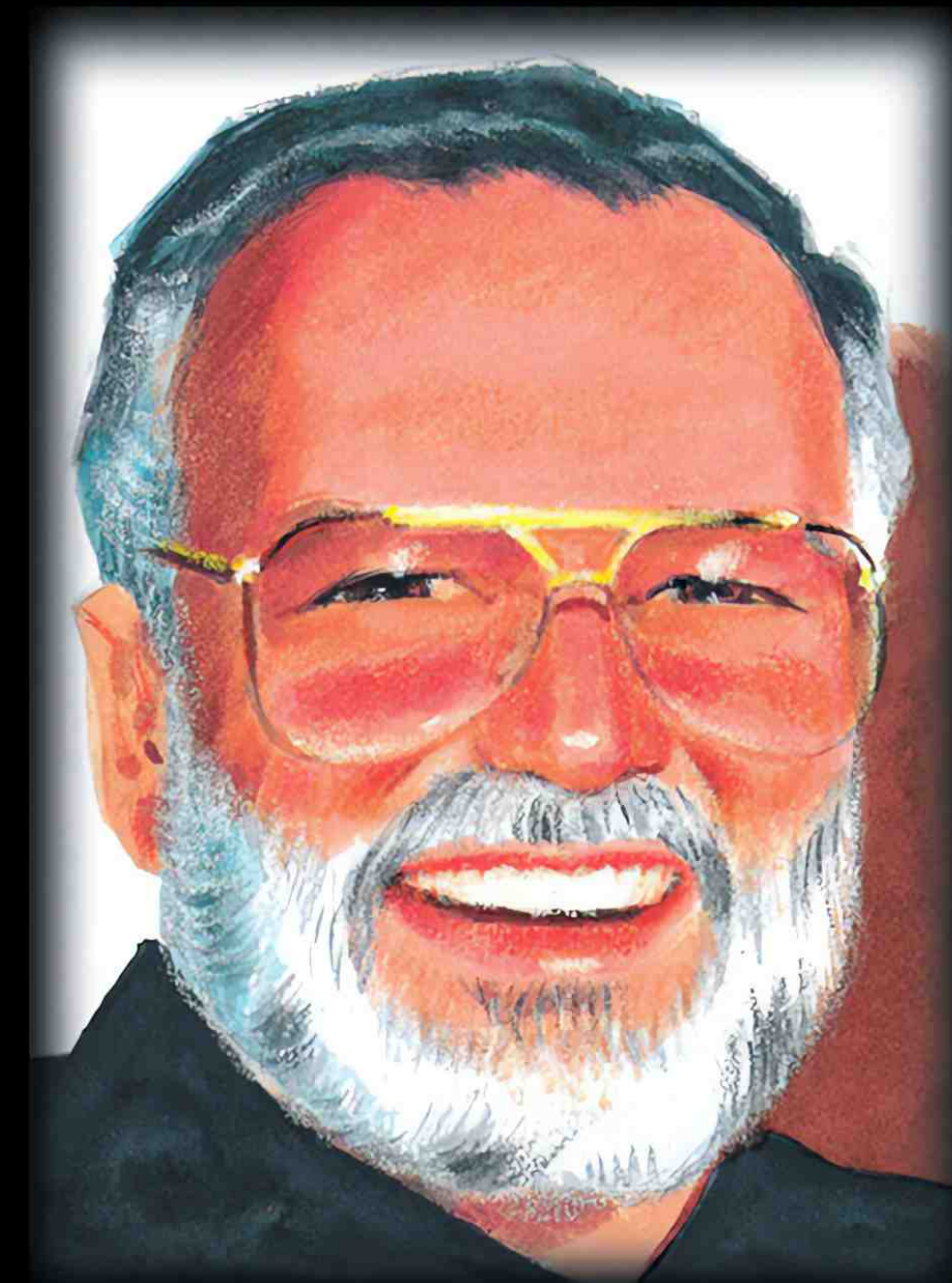


PARENTAL
ADVISORY



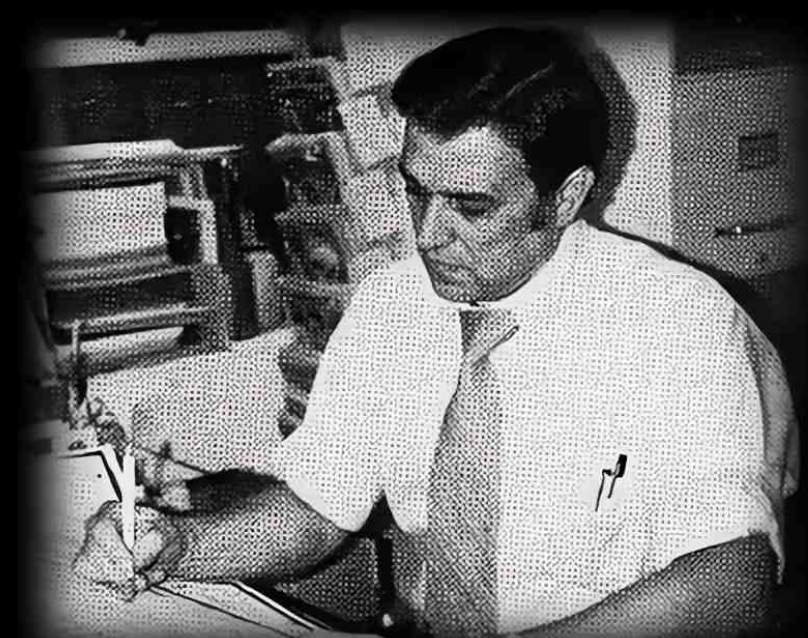
John Romita

1930 – 2023



Marvel mourns the passing of comic-book artist John Romita Sr., whose work on *Amazing Spider-Man* helped make the character a worldwide sensation. In his work as Marvel's art director, he designed the Punisher and Wolverine and served as mentor for countless artists during his decades-long tenure with the company.

Romita had a profound effect on everyone he met at Marvel. He was always kind and warm and served as an inspiration to all who knew him or followed his work. Romita helped build the Marvel Universe as we know it, and he will be greatly missed.



"John Romita Sr. was an incomparable artist who brought so many iconic Marvel characters to life on the page and set the tone and look of Marvel's comics for decades. His version of Spider-Man has inspired so many of us at Marvel Studios. Our thoughts are with his family and the generations of artists and fans who fell in love with the characters he drew."

— KEVIN FEIGE

"I was recently able to fawn over some of John Romita Sr.'s original Spider-Man pages, and the word that kept popping into my mind as I marveled over his linework was 'timeless.' His style was such a departure from what had come before, which John did say made him nervous, but one that came to define the look of Peter, Spider-Man, MJ, Gwen and everyone else in their orbit. And the same was true for every Marvel character John designed, penciled and inked. Whether as an artist or art director, John's work influenced generations of comic book artists. With his passing, the comic industry loses a true legend, but just like his artwork, his legacy will remain timeless."

— C.B. CEBULSKI

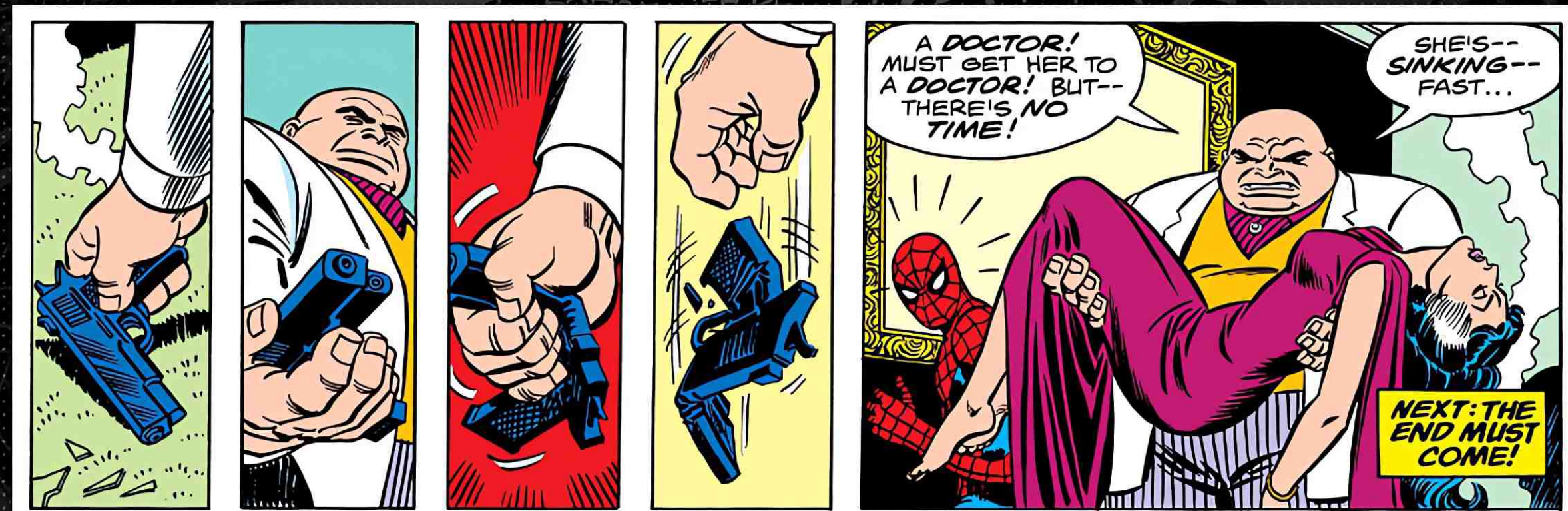
"When you close your eyes and picture Spider-Man, you're probably picturing a John Romita Sr. Spider-Man. From his debut of the character in *Amazing Spider-Man* #39, the subsequent fifty issues of art, more than a hundred covers and the work he did on the newspaper strip, John defined Spidey for generations of people around the world. That would be enough for anyone else, but John was also an excellent art director, a fantastic father, a doting grandfather and a gentleman. All of us making Spider-Man comics, and Marvel Comics in general, work in his shadow and strive to live up to the example of the legend, 'lazzy' John Romita."

— NICK LOWE



DECADES OF AMAZING WORK

John Romita wore many hats at Marvel. His most famous contribution was his run on *Amazing Spider-Man*, including the above cover to the series' landmark fiftieth issue. His association with the character would include drawing the cover of the famed wedding of Peter Parker and Mary Jane Watson, *Amazing Spider-Man Annual* #21, seen opposite top right. With Stan Lee, he started the Spider-Man newspaper strip, including the sequence with Kingpin from Sept. 25, 1977, seen opposite center. Behind the scenes, Romita was responsible for designing many of Marvel's most famous characters. At bottom opposite are Romita's costume designs for Black Widow and Wolverine.



"One of the highlights of my career was working with John Romita Sr. I couldn't believe that my 25-year-old self was working and interacting with him, and what made it even better was that he was so considerate and kind – something that has stuck with me ever since, among many other memories with him. It was one of the rare moments where you meet one of your heroes and he exceeds your expectations in every possible way.

His contributions to Marvel's pantheon and culture are immense, and he will be sorely missed. He was a great and kind man who truly made the world a better place. My deepest condolences to Virginia, Johnny and the Romita family."

— DAN BUCKLEY

ERIC BROOKS IS THE HALF-HUMAN/HALF-VAMPIRE HYBRID KNOWN AS BLADE. HE POSSESSES VAMPIRIC STRENGTH, SENSES AND LONGEVITY BUT IS ABLE TO WITHSTAND DAYLIGHT. BLADE HAS DEDICATED HIS LONG LIFE TO BATTLING SUPERNATURAL EVILS, AND HE IS ABOUT TO FACE HIS GREATEST CHALLENGE YET...

BLADE

MOTHER OF EVIL PART TWO

BLADE KILLED A MASKED SWORDSMAN TRYING TO MURDER A YOUNG WOMAN NAMED DANA. BUT THEN SHE REVEALED HERSELF TO BE AN EVIL FORCE CALLED THE ADANA, AND THE SWORDSMAN WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD HAVE DEFEATED HER. NOW BLADE AND ROTH, A ROGUE MEMBER OF THE SWORDSMAN'S SECT, MUST DISCOVER A WAY TO DESTROY THE ADANA BEFORE SHE BRINGS ABOUT THE END OF ALL CREATION.

BRYAN HILL
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ELENA CASAGRANDE
PENCILER

**ELENA CASAGRANDE
& ROBERTO POGGI**
INKERS

JORDIE BELLAIRE
COLOR ARTIST

VC's JOE SABINO
LETTERER

ELENA CASAGRANDE & JORDIE BELLAIRE
COVER ARTISTS

MATEUS MANHANINI; BILL SIENKIEWICZ
VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

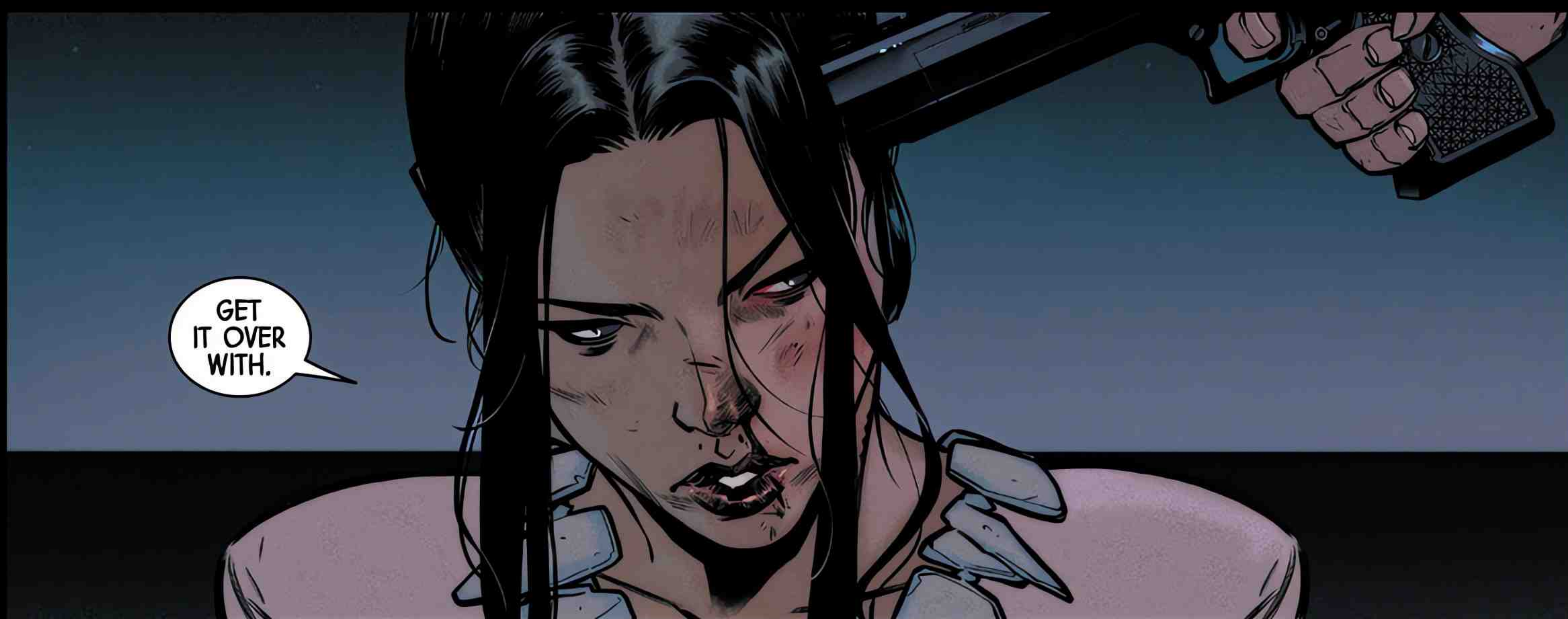
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MICHELLE MARCHESI
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WIL MOSS
EDITOR

C.B. CEBULSKI
EDITOR IN CHIEF

JAPANESE





HI,
TULIP.

WE
NEED TO
TALK.

"SO, LET
ME GET THIS
STRAIGHT.

"YOU RELEASED A **PRIMORDIAL
DEMON** INTO THE WORLD...AND
KILLED THE **ONLY PERSON**
WHO COULD DESTROY IT?"



THAT
EXPLAINS MY
DREAMS.

DREAMS?

WHAT KIND OF
DREAMS?

I'M
CLAIRVOYANT,
REMEMBER? THE
SECOND WORLD HAS
AN EARTHQUAKE AND
I HAVE A DREAM.

I SHOULD
HAVE KNOWN YOU
BROKE SOMETHING,
BLADE. **AGAIN**.



I NEED A
WEAPON THAT
CAN KILL THE ADANA,
TULIP. YOU KNOW
WHERE THE NAUGHTY
THINGS ARE.

THE
NAUGHTY
THINGS WITH
POWER.



I SELL **OCCULT
WEAPONS**. OF
COURSE I KNOW
WHERE THE NAUGHTY
THINGS ARE.

AND I STILL
HAVE BITS OF
SKULL IN MY
HAIR.



FELLA I KILLED.
WHO WAS HE? WHY
DID HE WANT TO
KILL YOU?

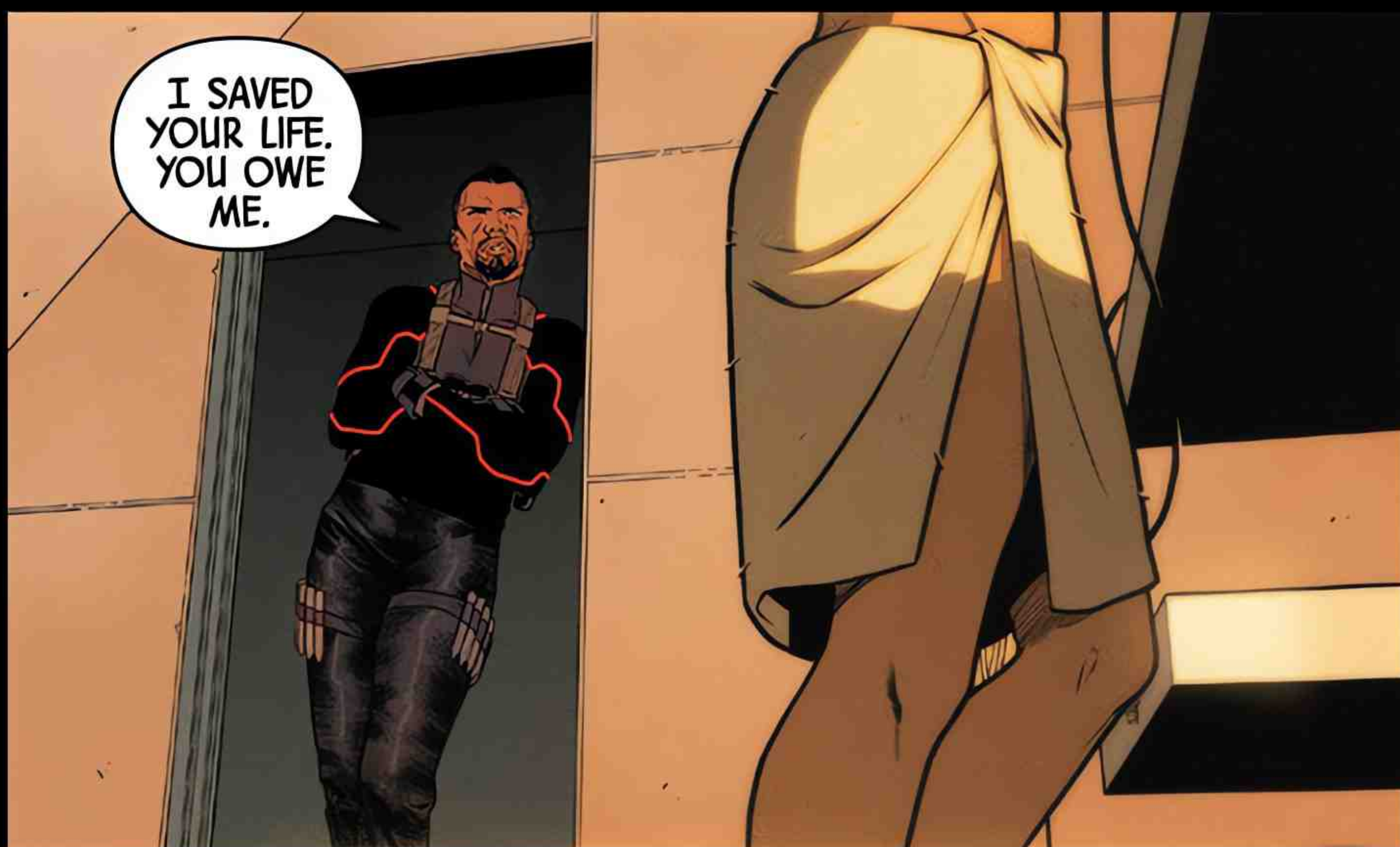
ANGRY
CUSTOMER. DIDN'T
LIKE MY RETURN
POLICY. JAPAN IS
GETTING A LITTLE
HOT FOR ME.

CRUEL
SUMMER,
HUH?

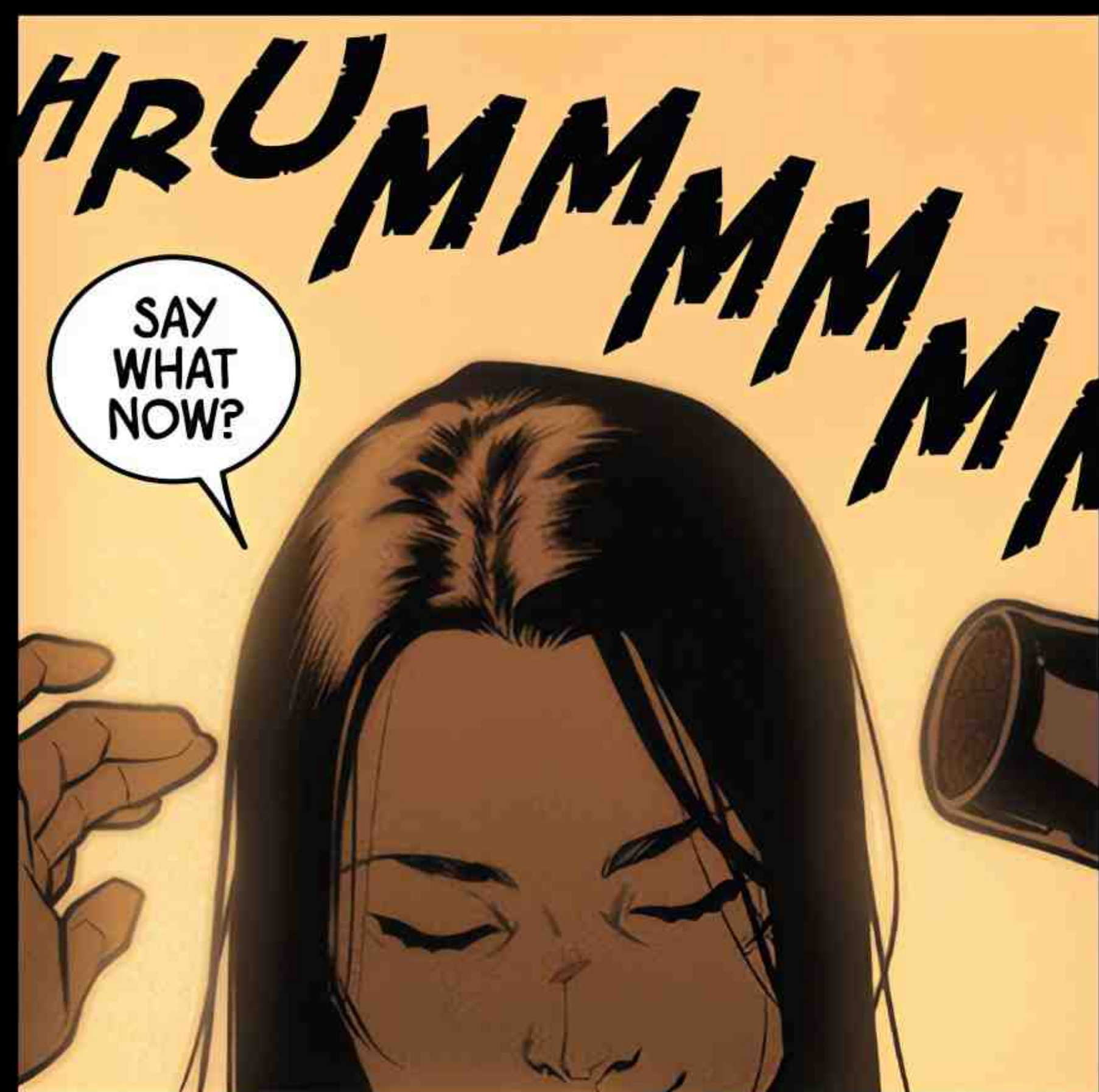


I NEED TO
KNOW MORE
ABOUT THIS...
ADANA BEFORE
I CAN HELP
YOU.

AND I
HAVEN'T
AGREED TO
HELP YOU.

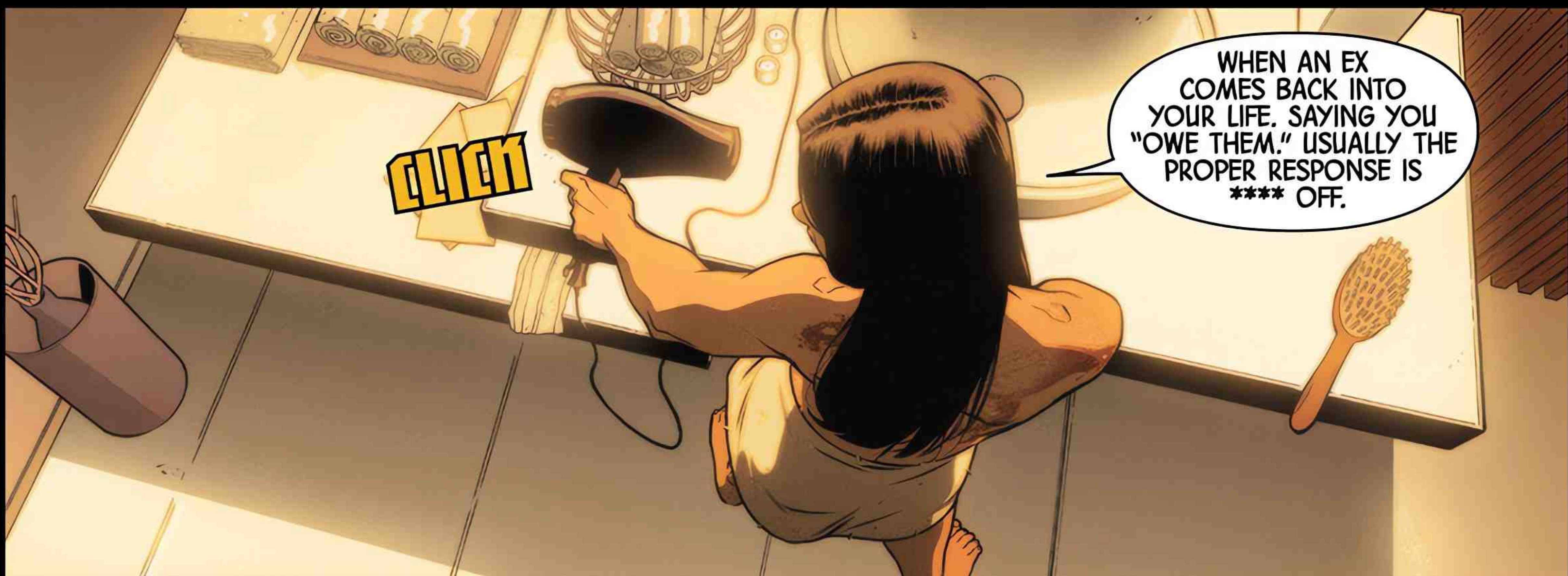


I SAVED
YOUR LIFE.
YOU OWE
ME.



SAY
WHAT
NOW?

HRUMMMM



CLICK

WHEN AN EX
COMES BACK INTO
YOUR LIFE, SAYING YOU
"OWE THEM." USUALLY THE
PROPER RESPONSE IS
**** OFF.



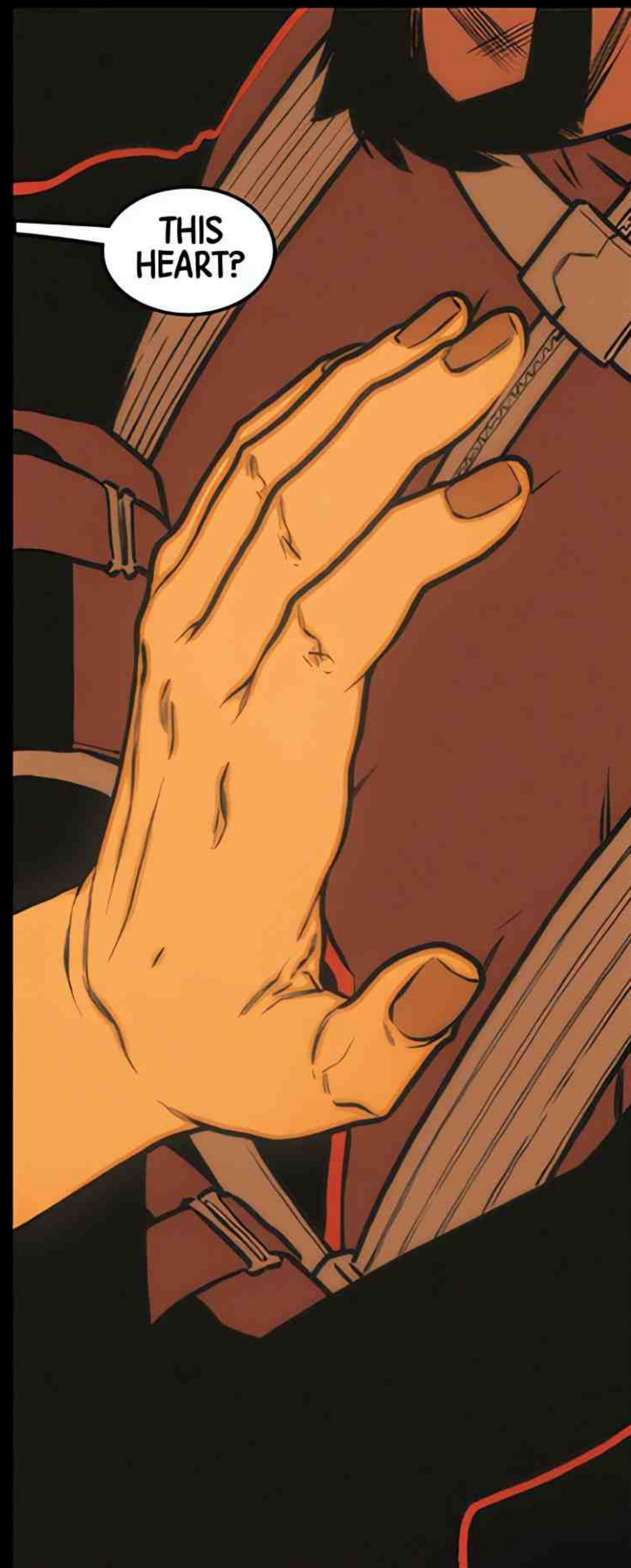
THOUGHT YOU WERE RUNNING A SMALL TOWN AND DEALING WITH THAT DAUGHTER OF YOURS?



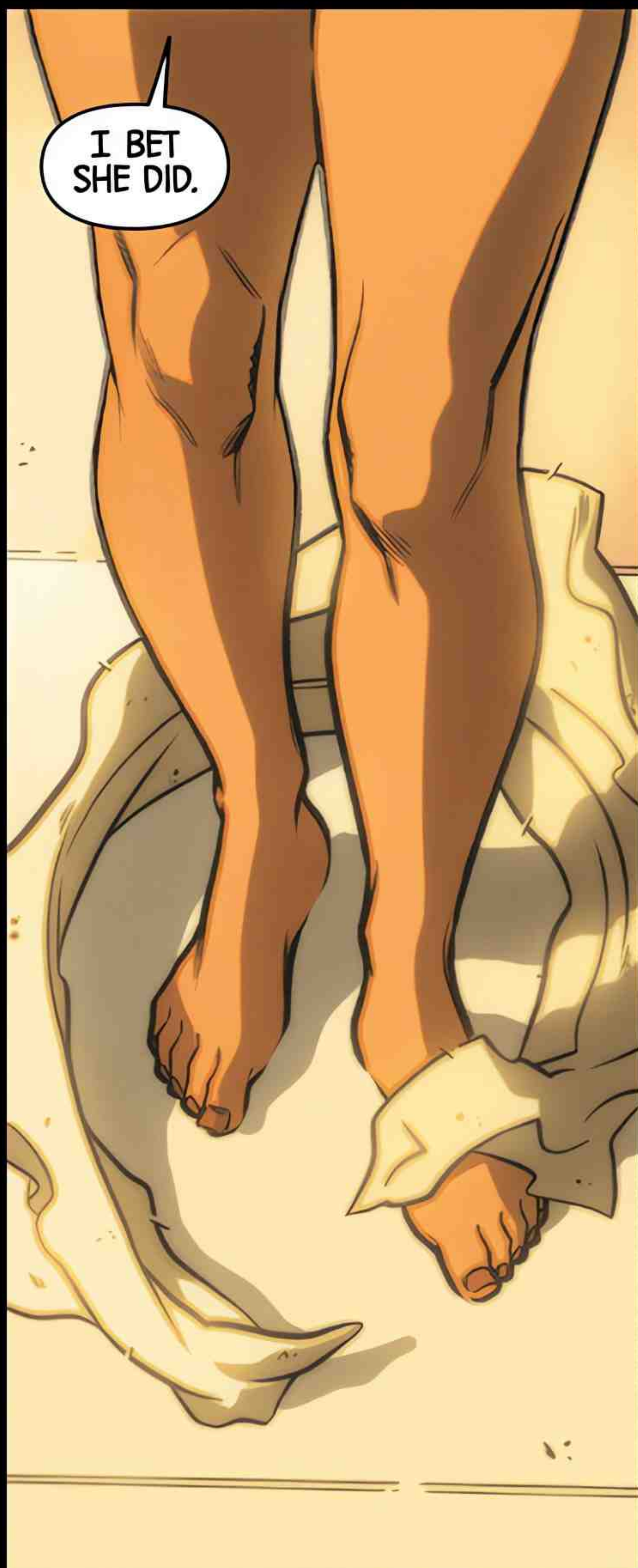
BLOODLINE
IS DOING FINE. GOING HER OWN WAY. I'M RUNNING WITH THIS OTHER KID TO STOP THIS. IT'S NOT A PLAY, TULIP.

KID? YOU PICKING UP SIDEKICKS NOW?

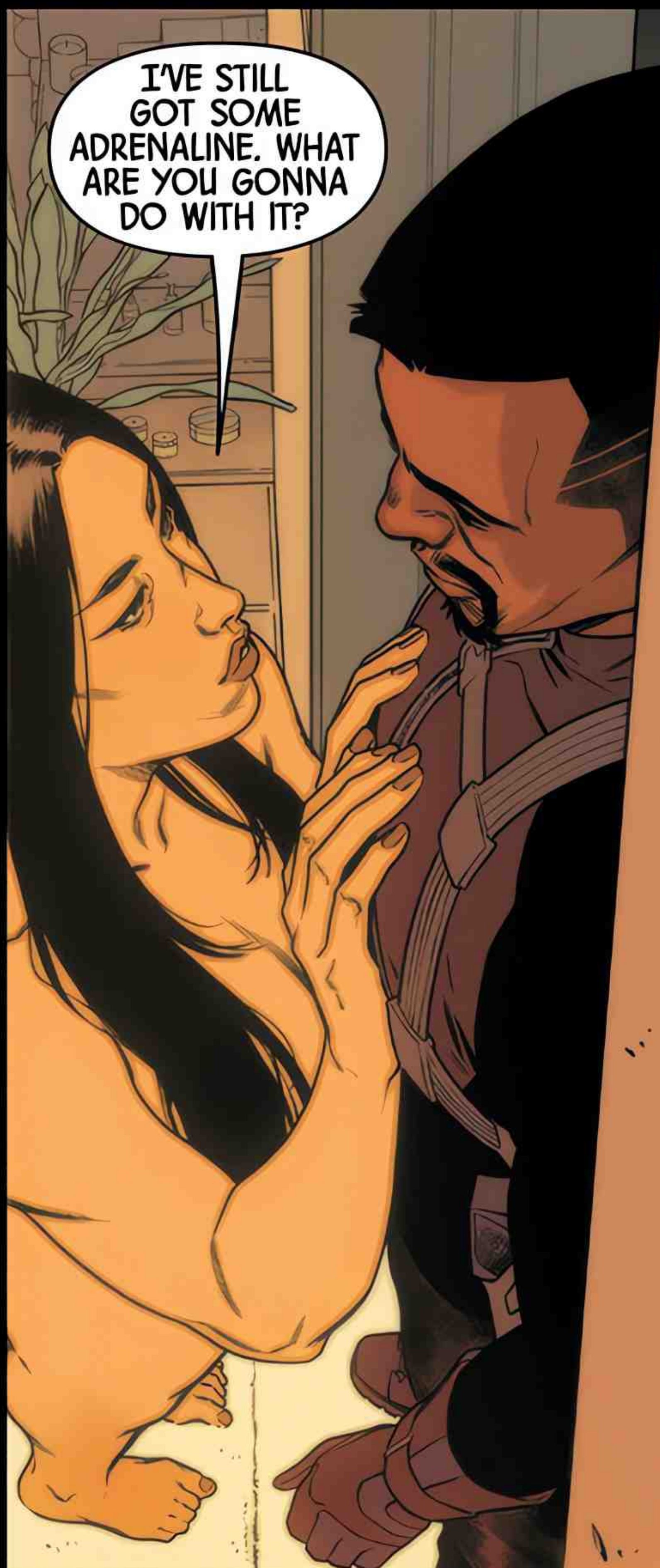
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT. SHE'S JUST A KID WHO HELPED ME OUT. PULLED AN ARROW OUT OF MY HEART.



THIS HEART?



I BET SHE DID.



I'VE STILL GOT SOME ADRENALINE. WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO WITH IT?



I HATE YOU, BLADE.

I KNOW, TULIP.



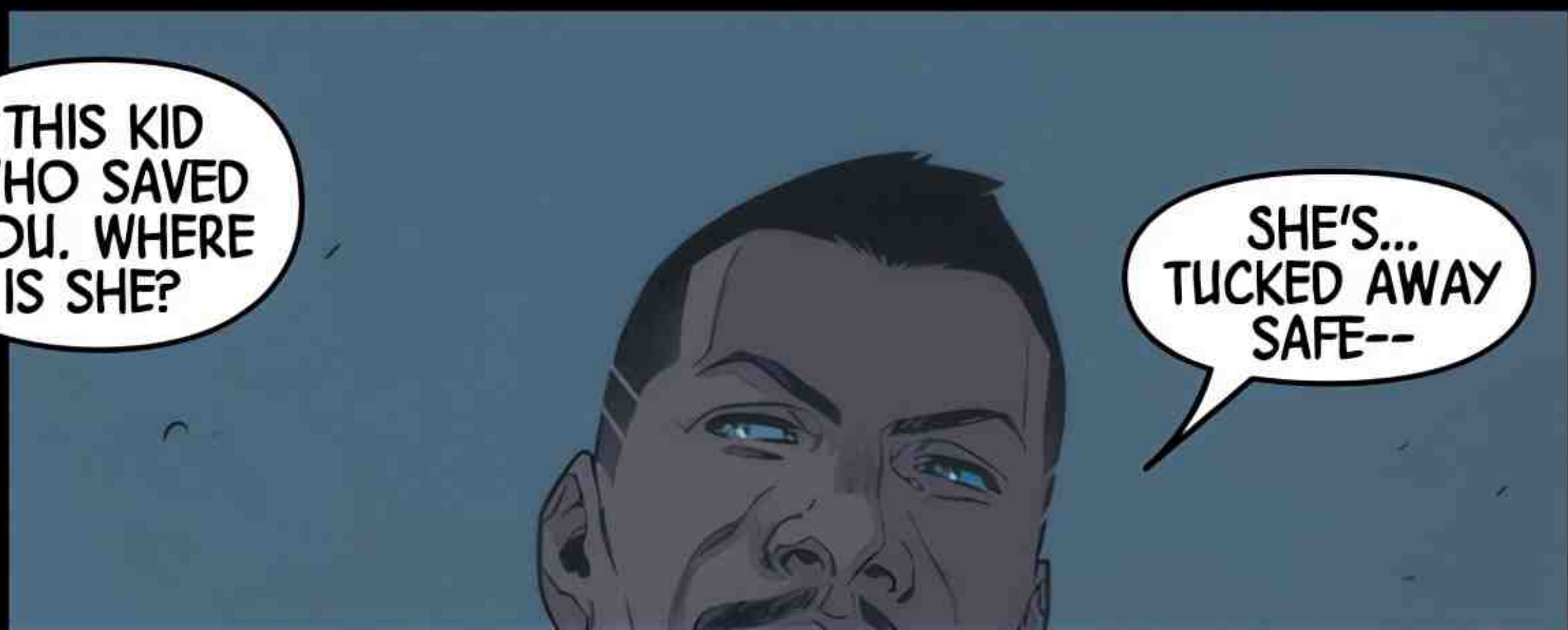
DON'T GET SENTIMENTAL. THAT WAS JUST TENSION GETTING SET FREE. I STILL HATE YOU.

I KNOW.

BUT I NEED YOUR HELP.



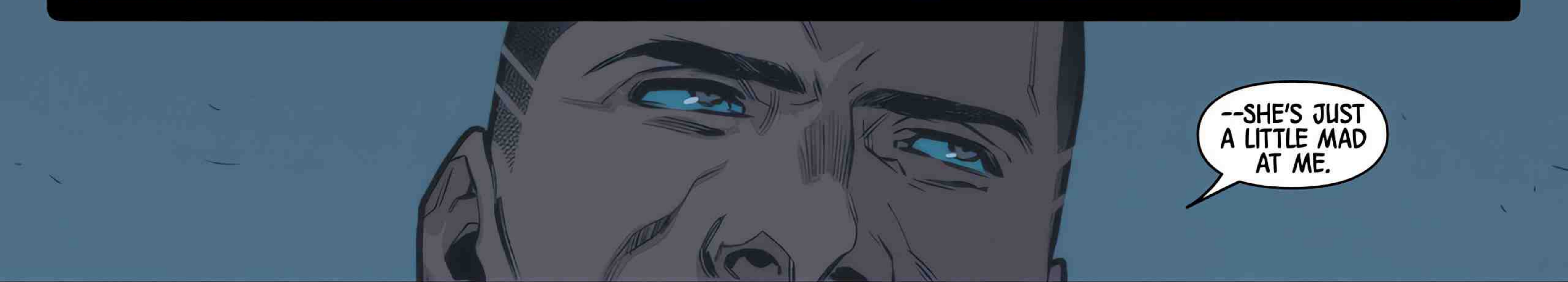
THIS KID WHO SAVED YOU. WHERE IS SHE?



SHE'S... TUCKED AWAY SAFE--



BLADE!!!



--SHE'S JUST A LITTLE MAD AT ME.



YOU HAVE
THAT EFFECT
ON PEOPLE.

WELL, I
NEED TO MEET
HER. SHE KNOWS
WHAT THIS
ADANA IS.

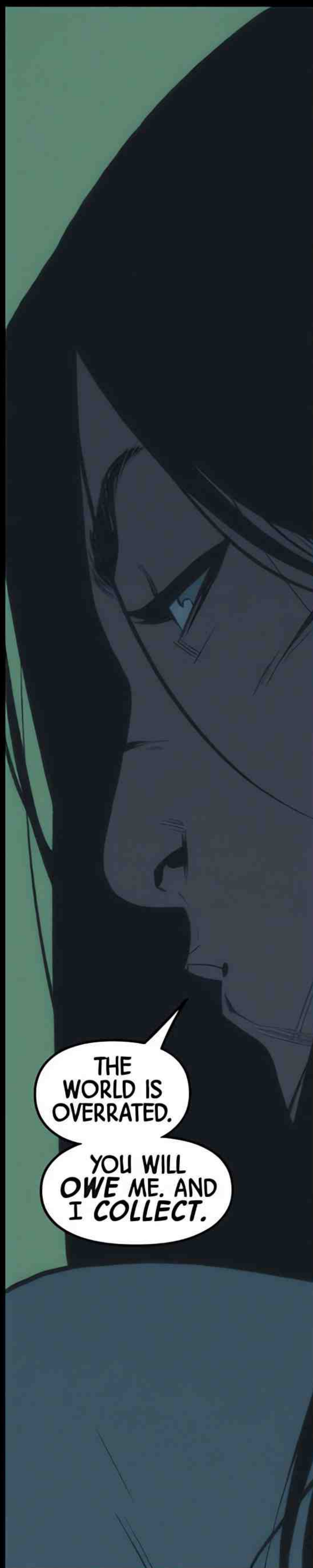
ONCE
I KNOW,
I MIGHT KNOW
WHERE YOU CAN
FIND SOMETHING
THAT CAN
KILL IT.



BUT
WHAT'S IN IT
FOR ME?

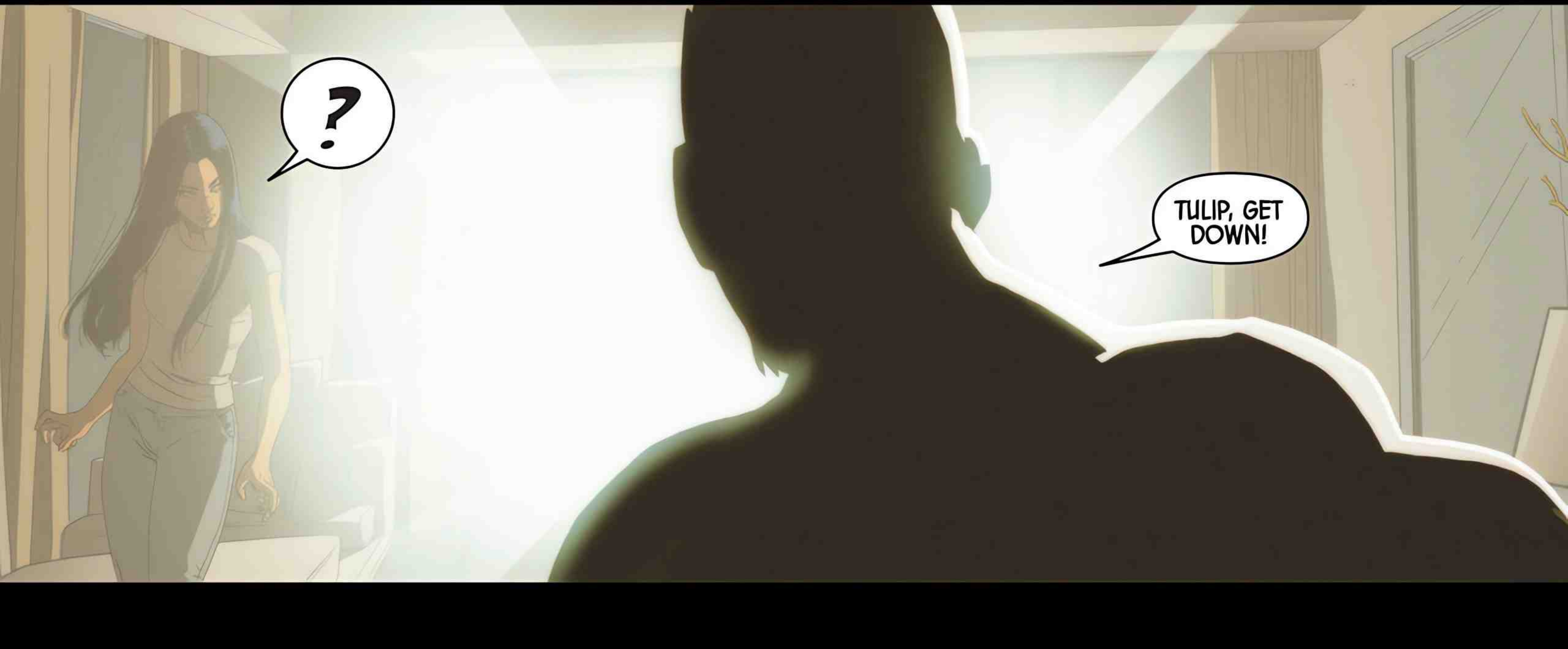


THE
KNOWLEDGE THAT
YOU'RE SAVING
THE WORLD ISN'T
ENOUGH?



THE
WORLD IS
OVERRATED.

YOU WILL
OWE ME. AND
I COLLECT.



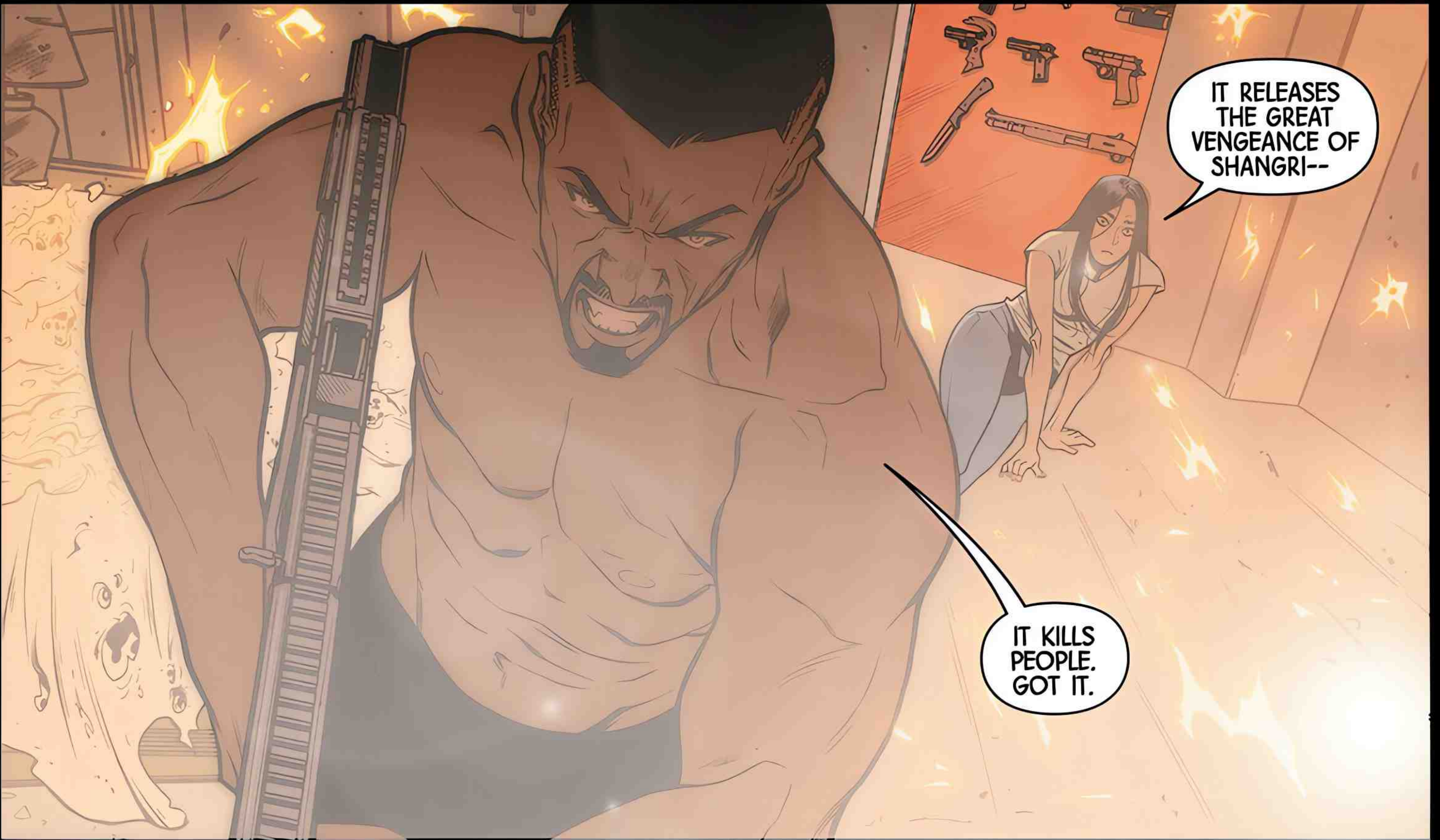
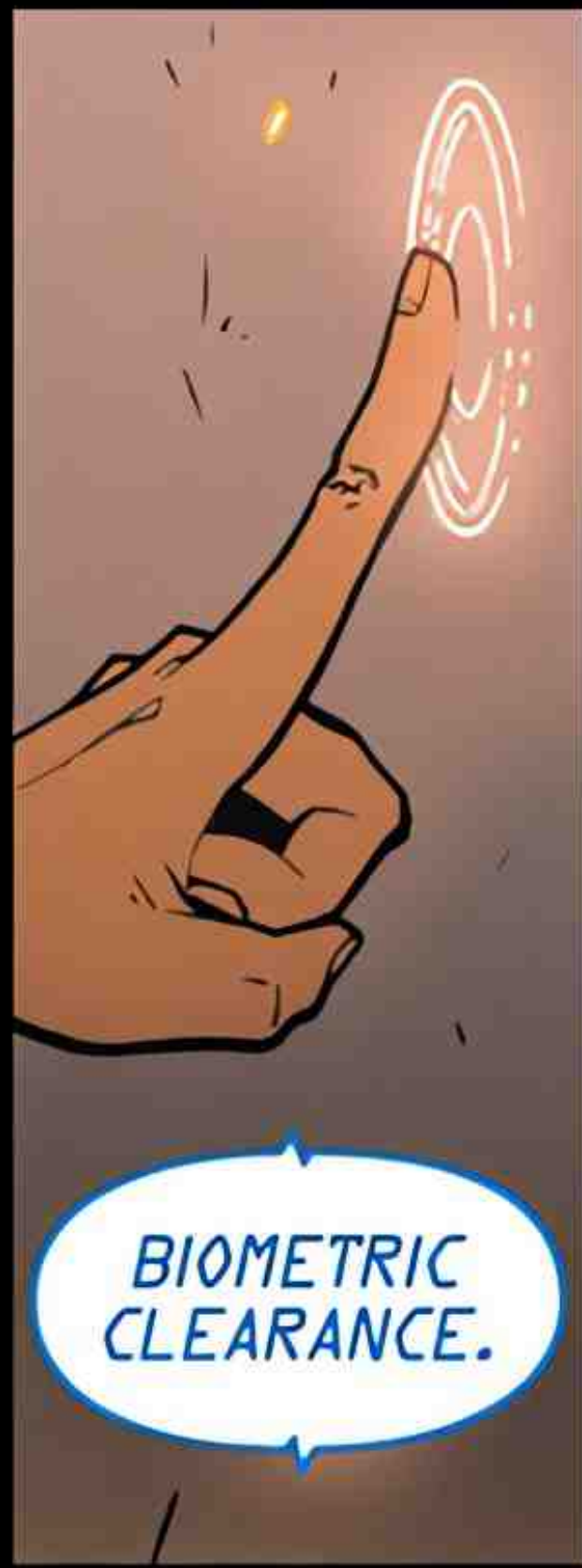
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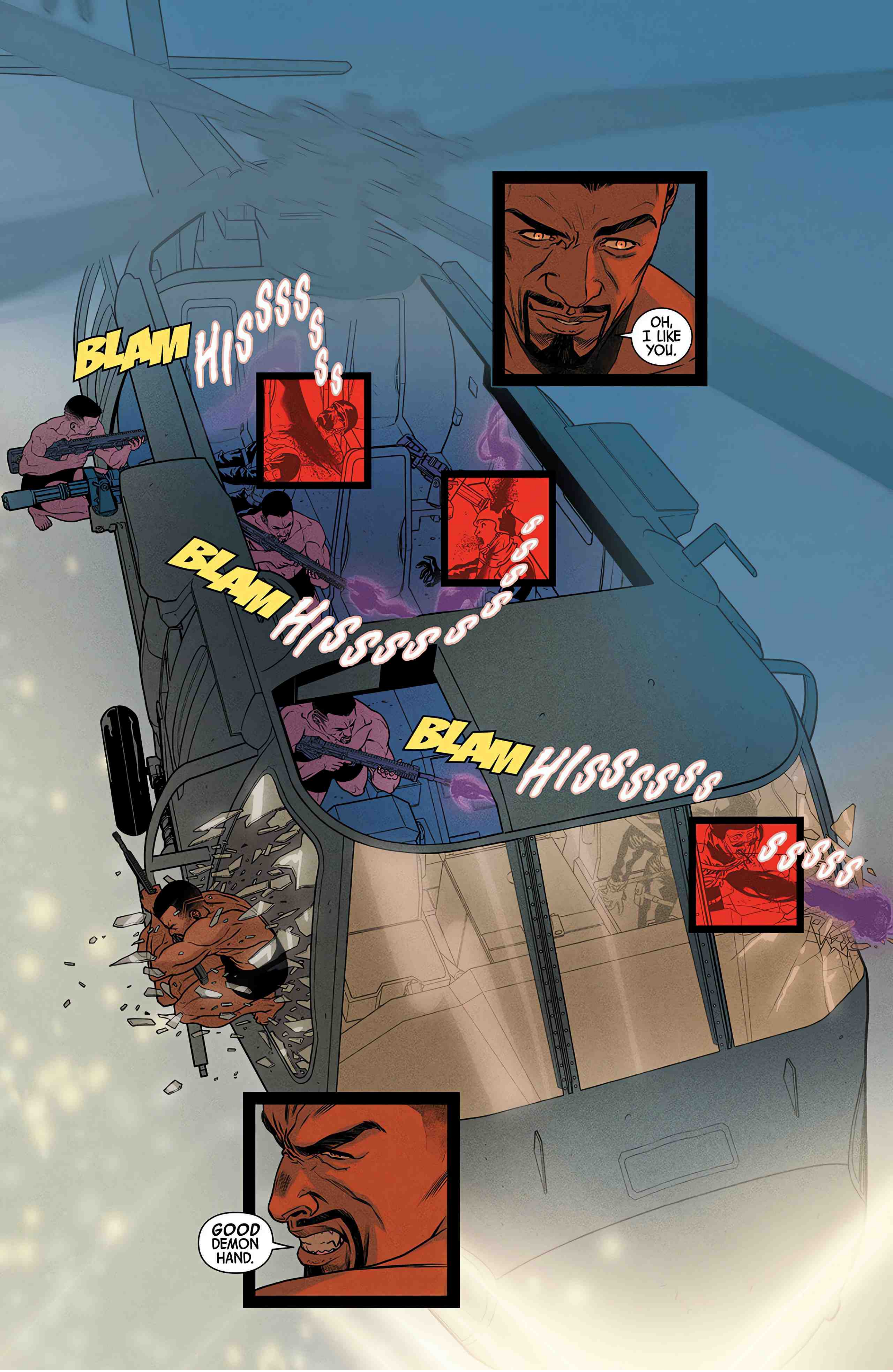
TULIP, GET
DOWN!



BRAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKA

BRAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKAKA





BLAM

HISSESSSS



BLAM

HISSESSSS

BLAM

HISSESSSS



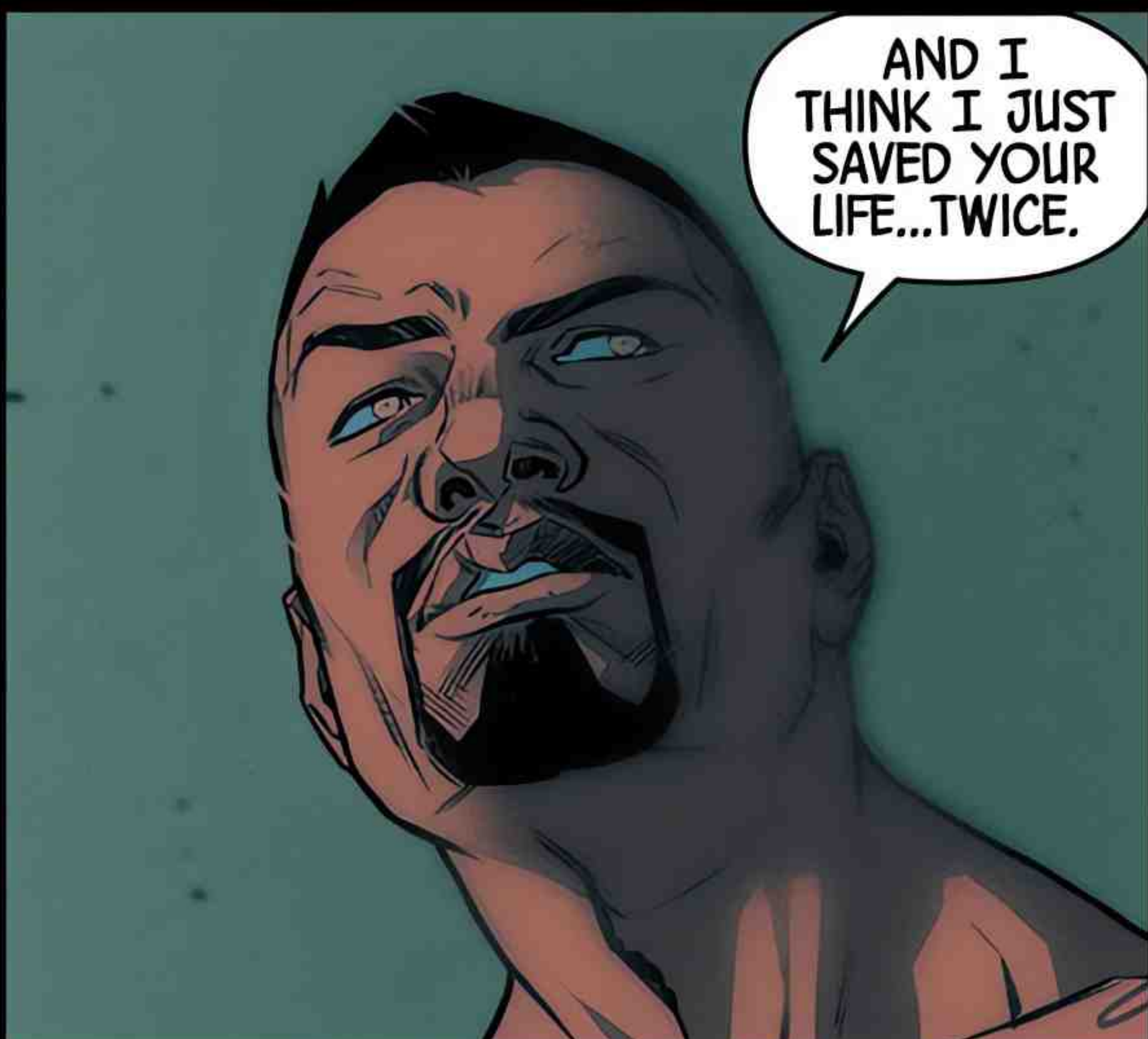
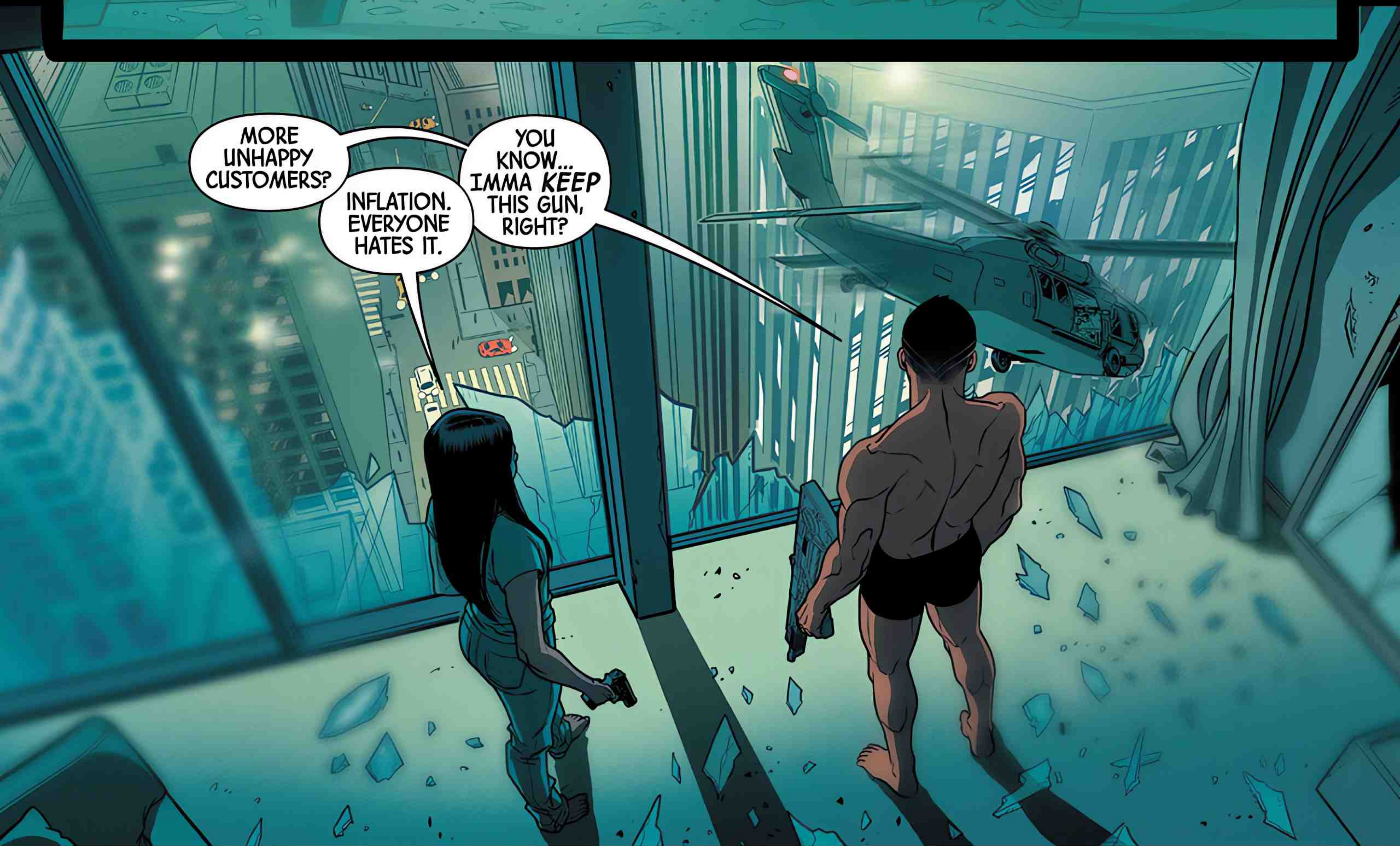
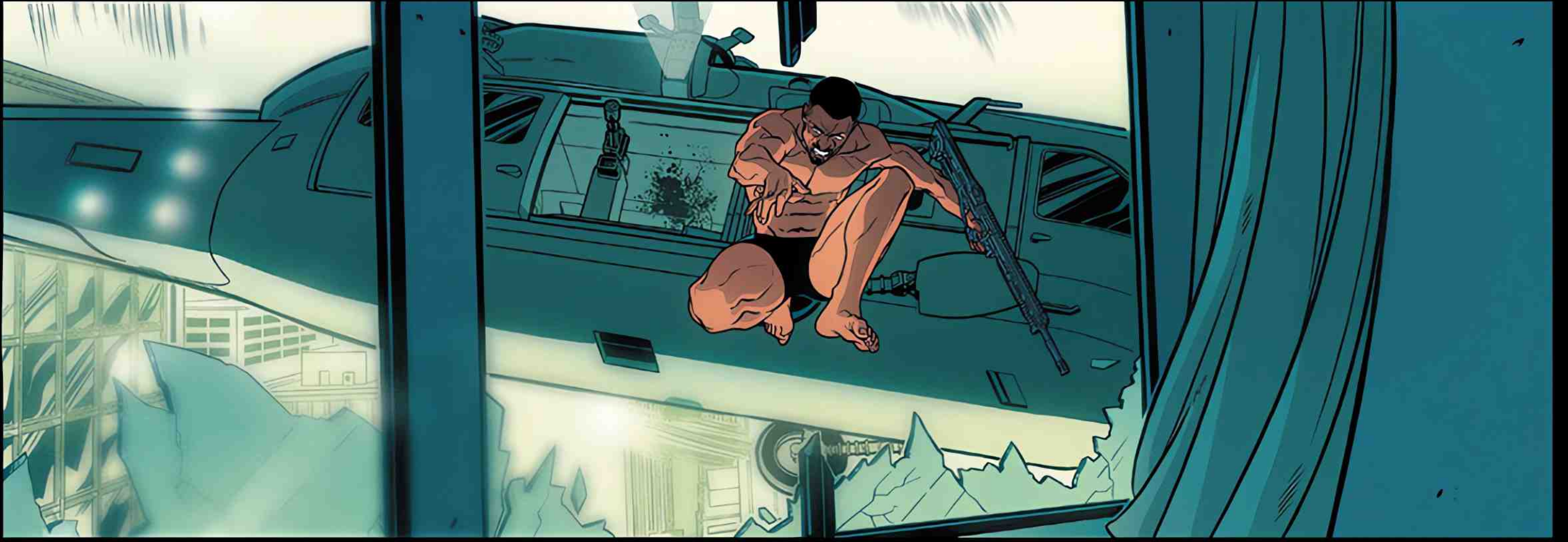
HISSESSSS

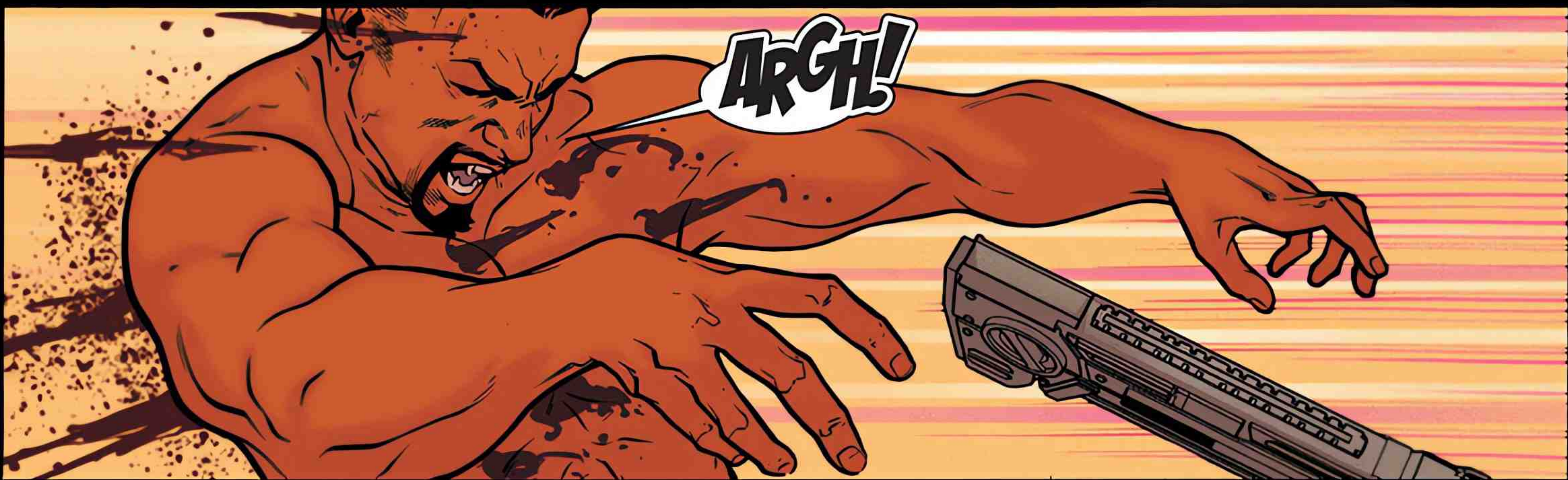


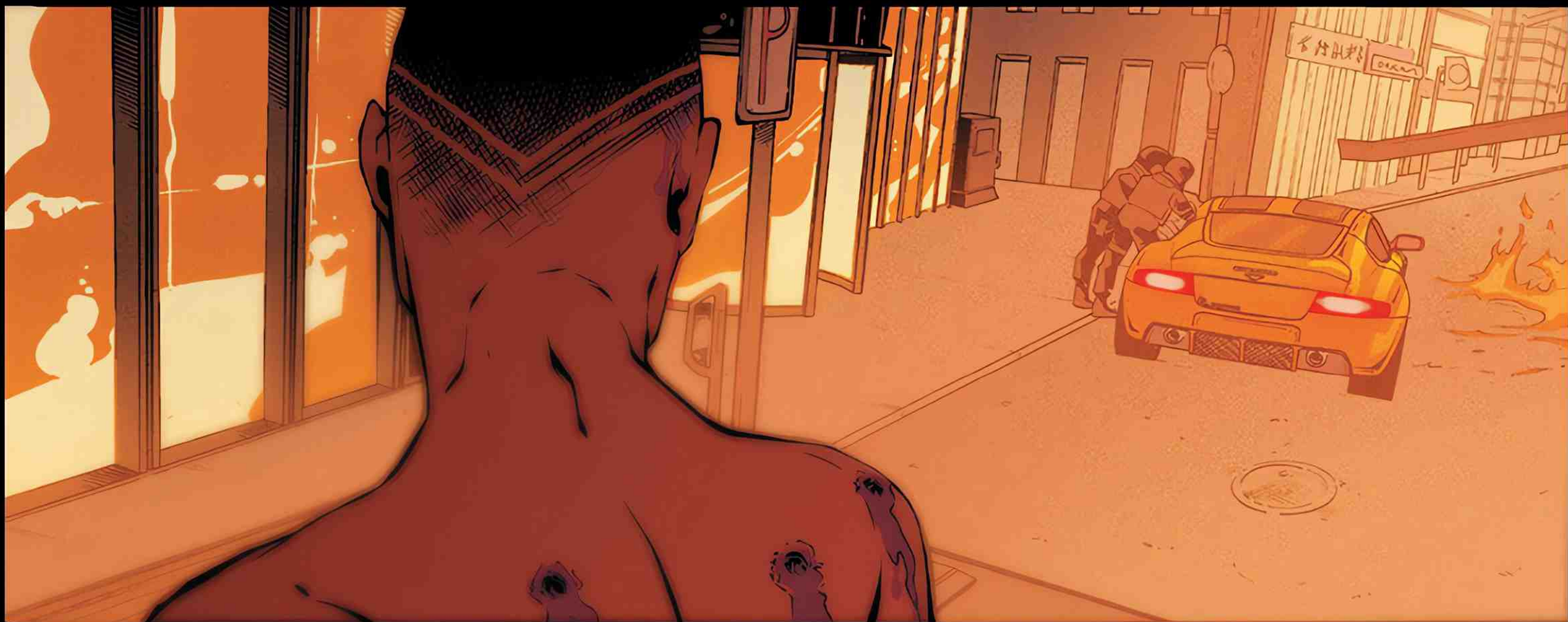
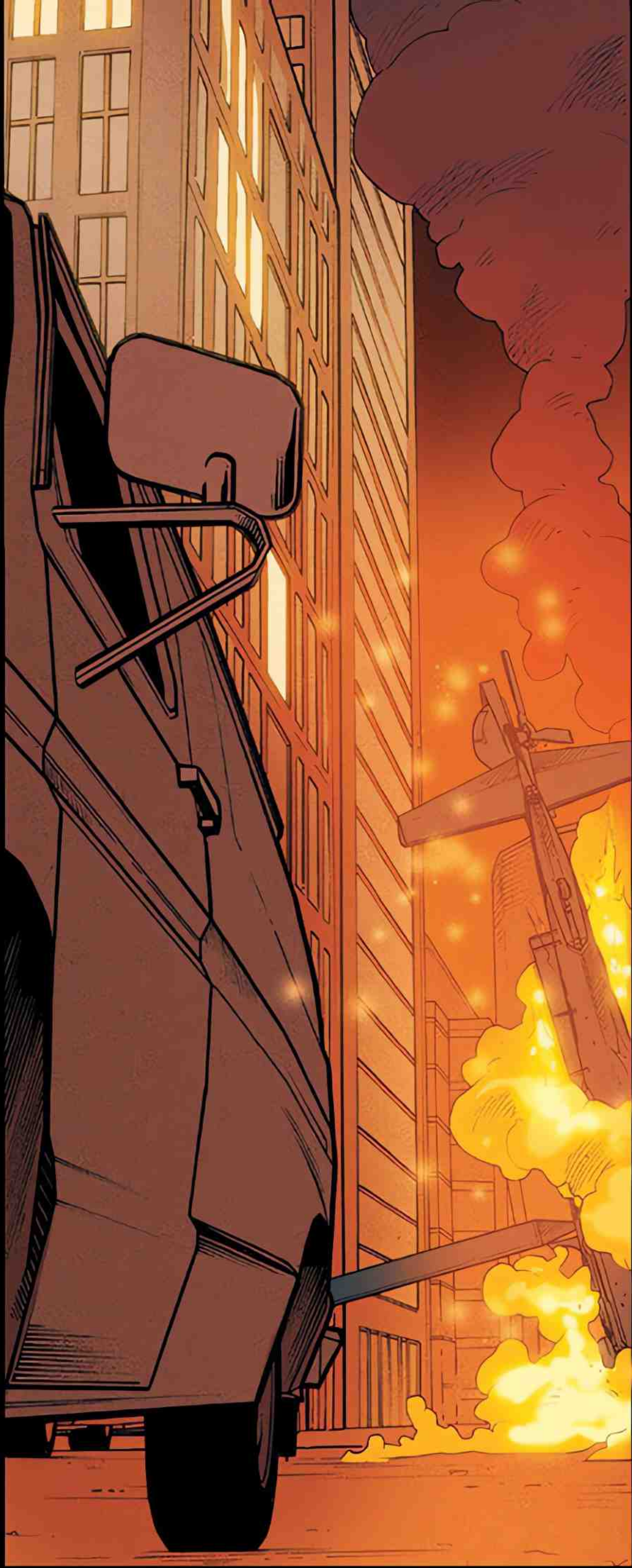
OH,
I LIKE
YOU.

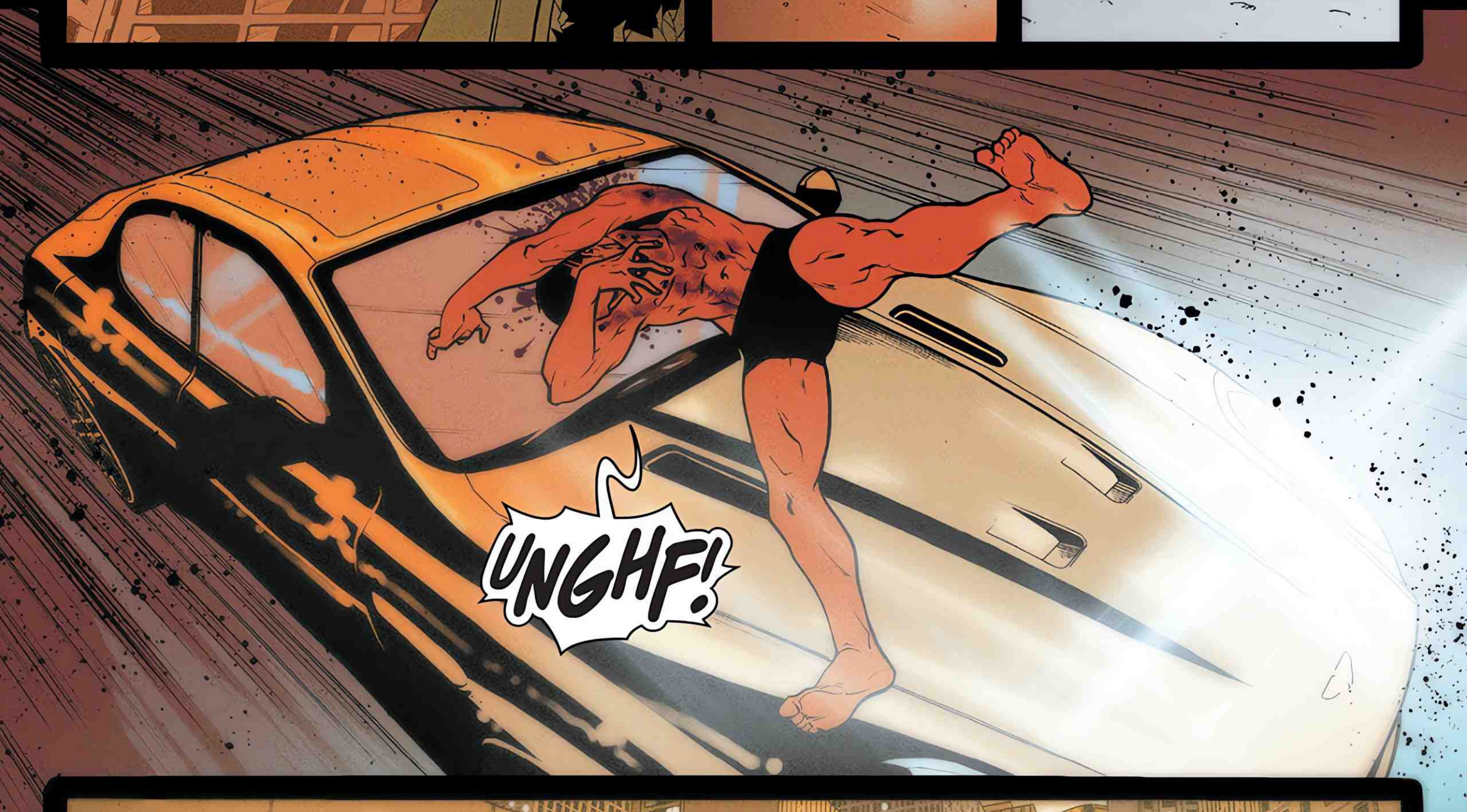
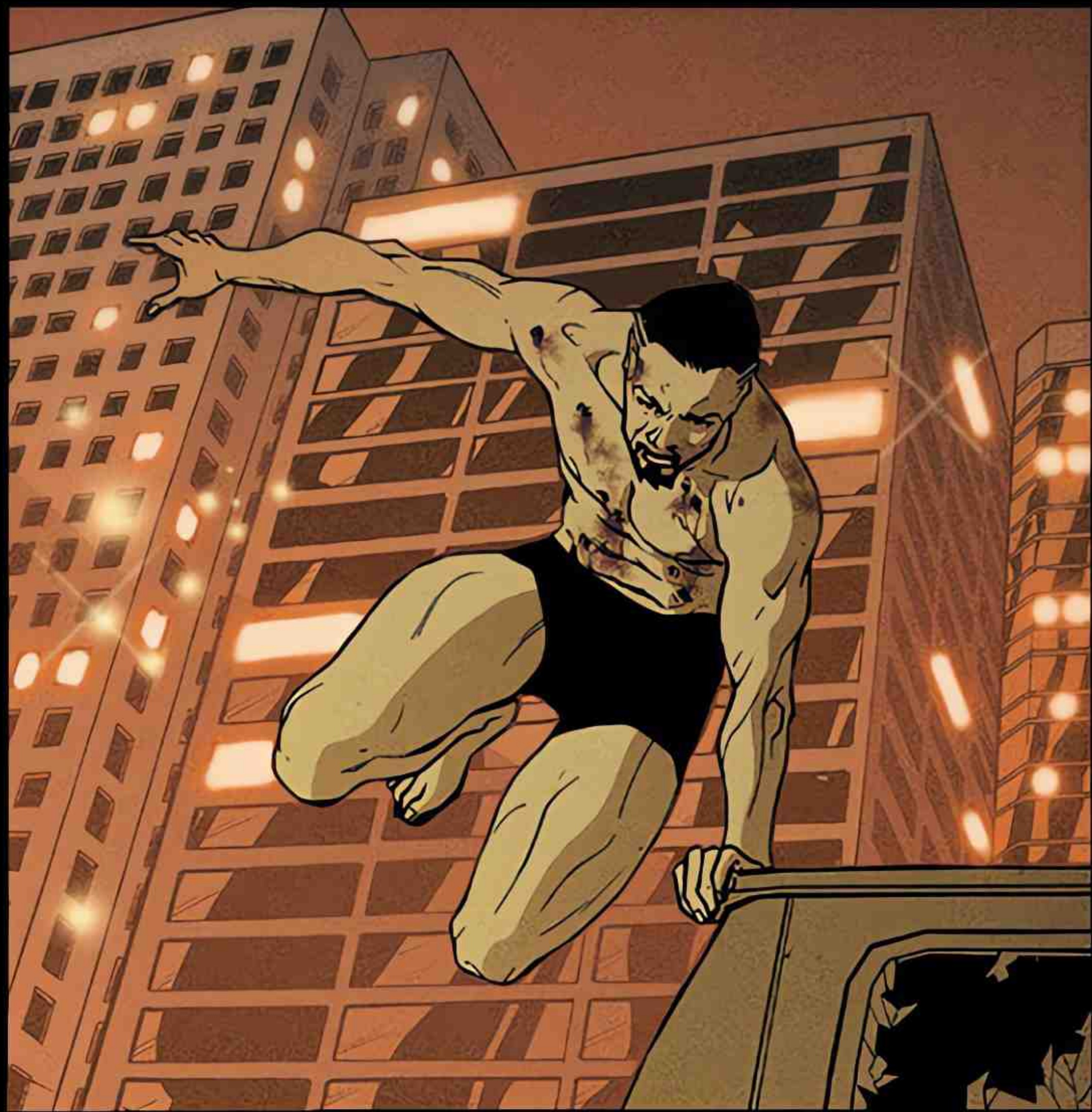


GOOD
DEMON
HAND.



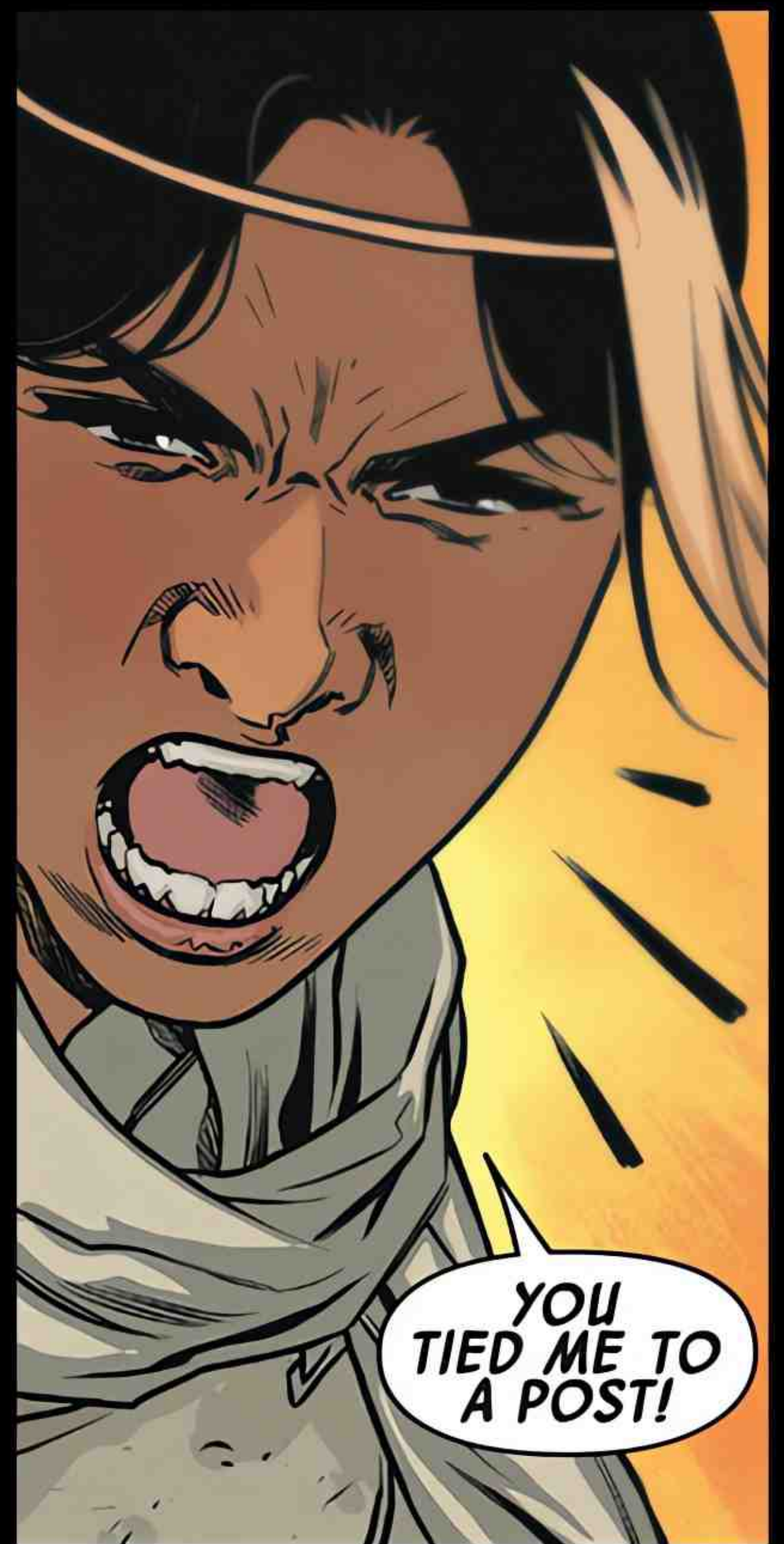








HEY,
KID. I'M
BACK.



YOU
TIED ME TO
A POST!



FOR **YOUR** OWN
GOOD, KID. MOUNTAIN
CULTS. BOWS AND
ARROWS...



...MY WORLD
IS A LITTLE OUT OF
YOUR LEAGUE.



GOOD AND BAD NEWS.
MY WEAPONS DEALER
MIGHT HAVE A SOLUTION
TO YOUR DEMON-
QUEEN-WHATEVER.

YOUR
DEMON. **YOU** SET
HER FREE.

AND I
AM NOT "KID."
MY NAME IS
ROTHA.

GOOD THING
I HAVE YOU TO
REMIND ME.

HERE'S
THE **BAD**
NEWS.



I'M PRETTY
SURE WE NEED
TO RESCUE MY
FRIEND BEFORE
SOME BAD
PEOPLE KILL
HER.



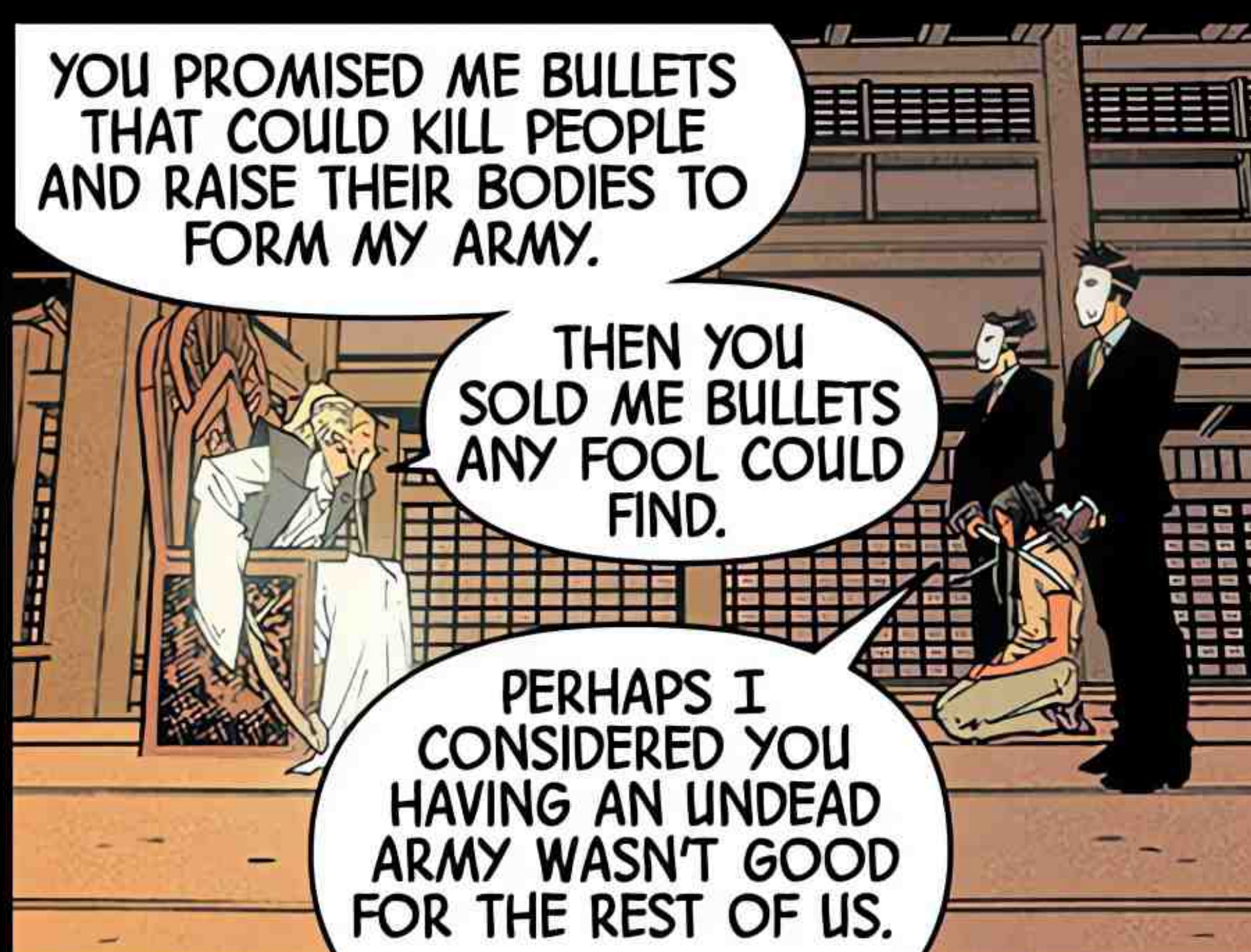


YOU COULD HAVE JUST TEXTED ME, LORD DAIDO.



BUT I WANTED YOUR COMPANY IN PERSON, TULIP.

IT'S HOW I PREFER TO SETTLE MY DEBTS.



YOU PROMISED ME BULLETS THAT COULD KILL PEOPLE AND RAISE THEIR BODIES TO FORM MY ARMY.

THEN YOU SOLD ME BULLETS ANY FOOL COULD FIND.

PERHAPS I CONSIDERED YOU HAVING AN UNDEAD ARMY WASN'T GOOD FOR THE REST OF US.



BUT YOU TOOK MY MONEY!!!

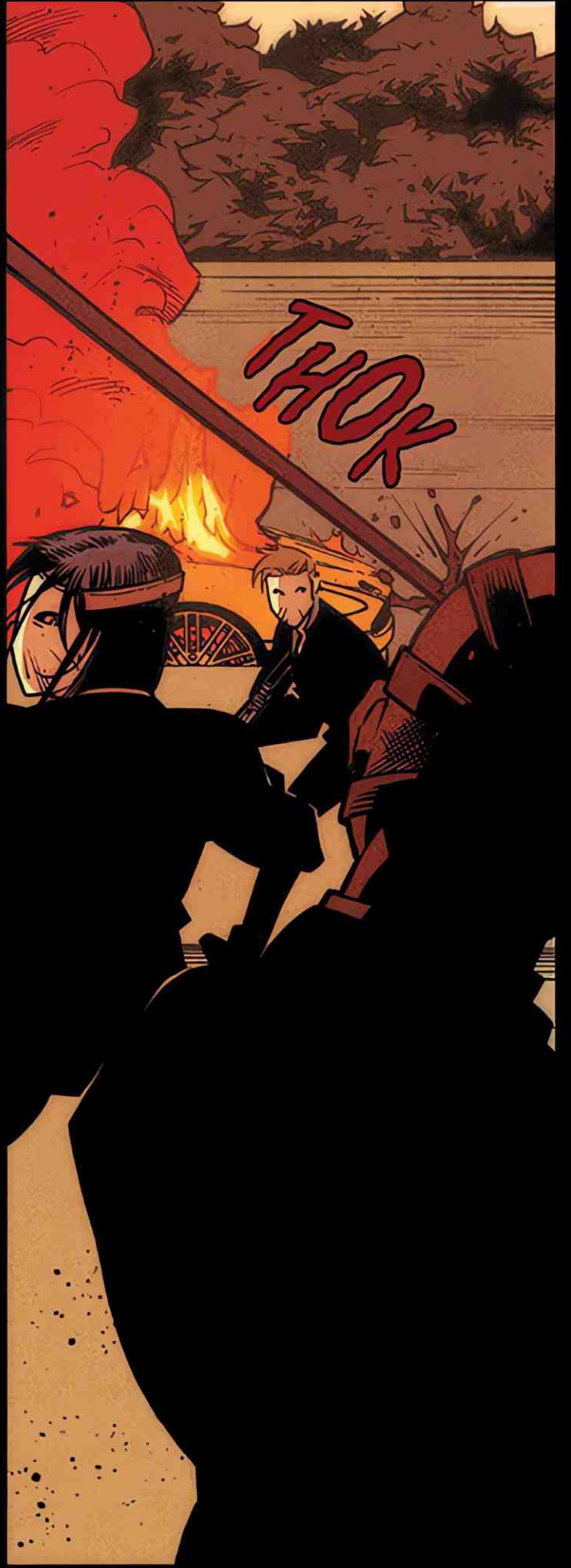
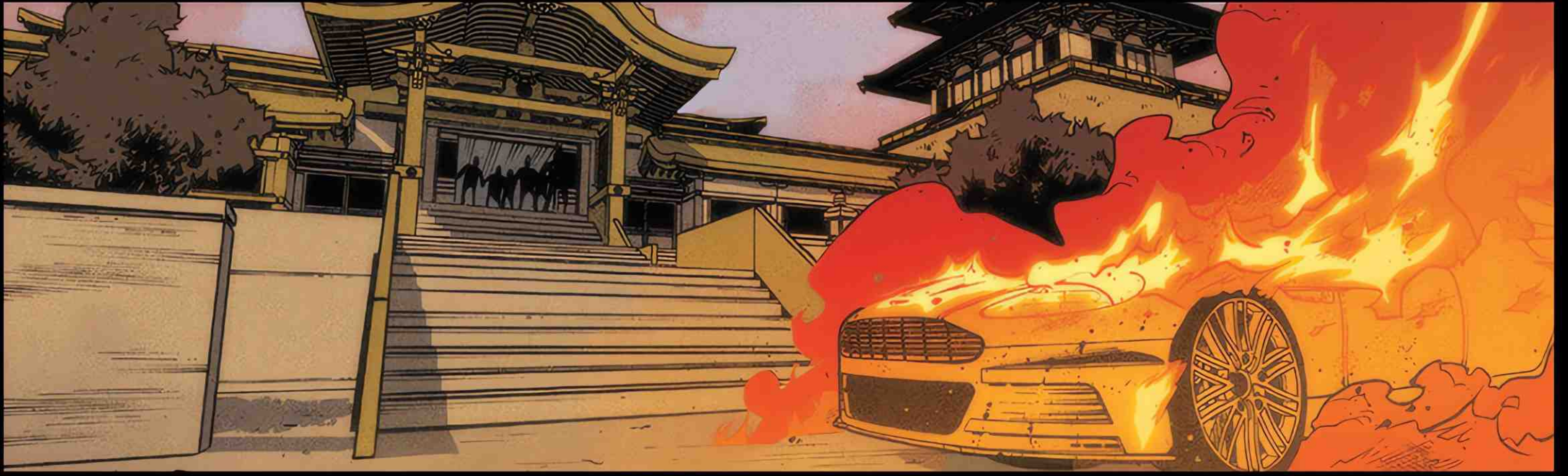


YOU HAVE **FIVE HUNDRED YEARS** OF MONEY, LORD DAIDO.

I'M HAVING **DREAMS** AGAIN. ON GOOD INFORMATION, I KNOW THE SECOND WORLD IS ABOUT TO EXPLODE.

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I KNOW, AND WE CAN CONSIDER YOUR MONEY THE DOWN PAYMENT FOR MY INFORMATION.







DAYWALKER.
WHAT A PLEASURE
TO FINALLY
MEET YOU.



YOU'RE OLD.
NOT IMMORTAL.
I'M ABOUT TO
PROVE IT.



I AM THE INVADER
OF THOUGHTS.
THE CONQUEROR
OF MINDS.



AND NOW
YOUR MIND SHALL
BE MY PUPPET,
DAYWALKER.



FAIR TULIP...
WHERE WERE
WE?

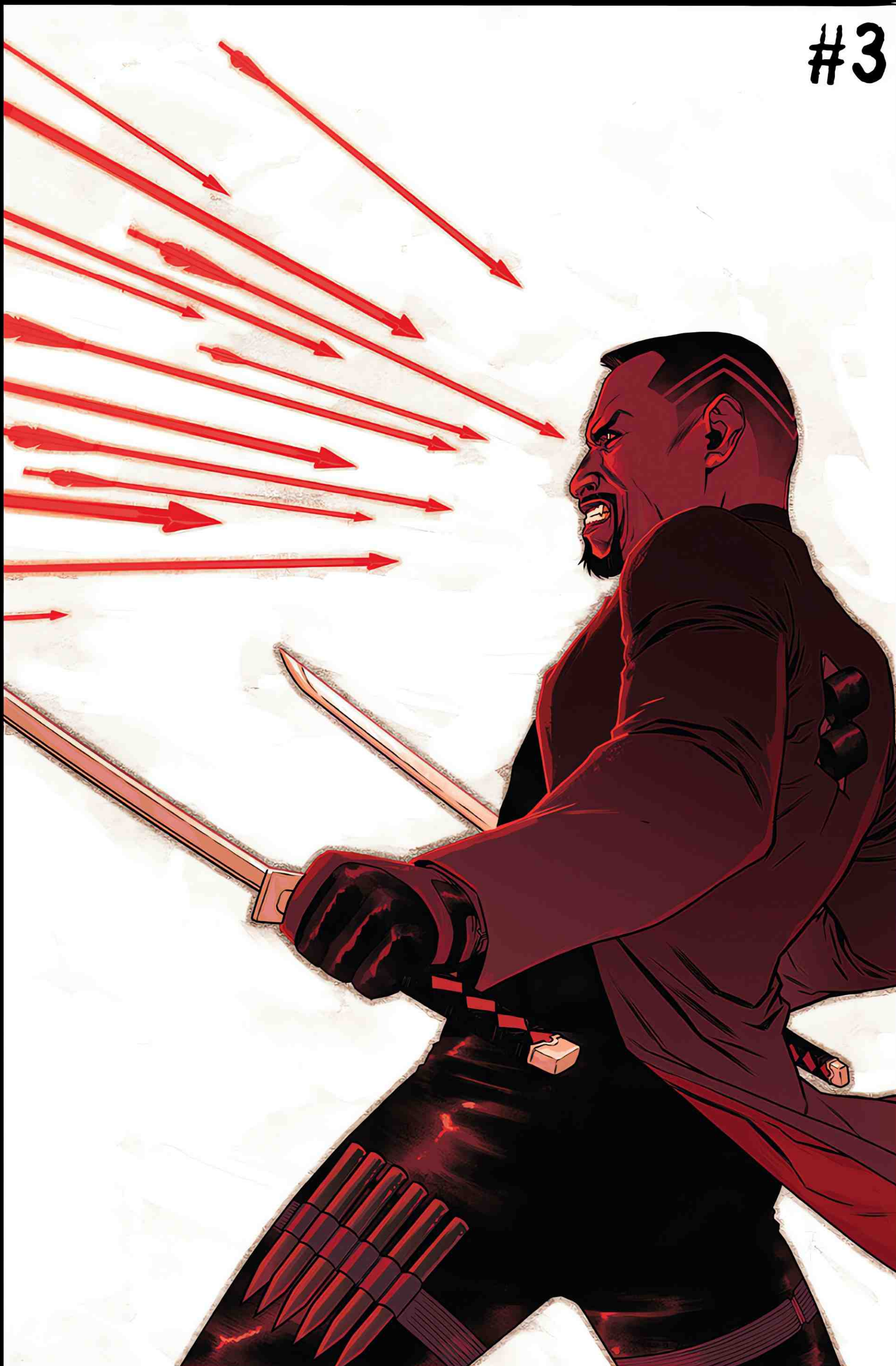
FAIR TULIP...
WHERE WERE
WE?

TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT

WITH BLADE TRAPPED IN LORD DAIDO'S SPELL, WILL TULIP AND ROTHY TURN THEIR OWN WEAPONS AGAINST HIM? TIME IS RUNNING OUT AS THE ADANA GROWS HER POWER!

#3



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! WRITE US AT [MHEROES@MARVEL.COM](mailto:mheroes@marvel.com)
AND MARK YOUR LETTERS "OKAY TO PRINT"!